

Proposed 2007 Session Legislation

Agency Name: **Commissioner of Political Practices** Agency No: **3202**

Priority Number: **2** Filename: **3202-01-002**

Short Title: **Revise Campaign Finance Reporting Requirements**

Agency Contact Person/Phone: **Gordon Higgins/444-2942**

1. Purpose:
Amend 13-37-225, MCA to allow the voluntary filing of campaign finance documents and reports with county election administrators.

2. Background:
Currently, candidates and political committees must file copies of required reports with the Commissioner's office and the election administrator in the county of residence. The agency anticipates an on-line campaign filing system to be fully operational before the 2008 primary election. If a candidate or committee files a report on-line, the public can access those filings through an Internet-based search function via a personal connection or by a public connection located in each county. Public access to information is enhanced and the need for filing two copies is eliminated.

3. Fiscal Impact by Fund Type: *This impact should be as specific as possible.*
No fiscal impact is anticipated.

4. Summary Checklist [Check & complete all that apply]--

Housekeeping Only Federal Requirement Audit Recommendation (Audit No.) Major Legislation

Anticipated to be Controversial Legislation Bill Draft has been included in Legislation Submittal (if available)

Supports Submitted EPP Item Number: Local Government Fiscal Impact

Increases FTE, or Decreases FTE by

List FTE amount and program
No impact on agency FTE

Increases Existing Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]

Decreases Existing Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]

Establishes New Revenue Tax Fee Penalty [amount in #3]

Leg. has been Submitted in Previous Legislative Sessions (list priority no, LC no, or bill no):

Legislation would affect other state agencies (list):

Special Interest Groups Affected (list):
Candidates, political committees, county election administrators.

Other:
The agency anticipates that this proposal may generate some opposition from county election administrators if electronic access to records is an issue in the county.